

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of processing content information at a second CE (consumer electronics) device, the method comprising:
 - receiving authorization for the processing by the second CE device of, at least part of, the content information stored at a first CE device, the first CE device coupled to the second CE device via a peer-to-peer network of respective CE devices.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the processing of, at least part of, the content information comprises at least one of:
 - receiving the content information from the first CE device at the second CE device;
 - storing the content information at the second CE device; and
 - playing out the content information from the second CE device.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the authorization is requested from one of:
 - an entitlement manager remote to the second CE device; and
 - a conditional access module local to the second CE device.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the network comprises at least one hub.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the content information originates from an MSO (Media Service Operator).
6. A second CE device for use in a method of processing content information at the second CE (consumer electronics) device, the method comprising
 - receiving authorization for processing by the second device of, at least part of, the content information stored at a first CE device, the first CE device coupled to the second CE device via a peer-to-peer network of respective CE devices; andwherein the second CE device comprises:
 - a storage unit for storing content information that is under control of a conditional access manager;
 - means for receiving an authorization from the manager to process the content information; and

- means for receiving content information from the first CE device coupled to the second CE device via the peer-to-peer network of respective devices.

7. An EPG (Electronic Program Guide) on first content information available to a second CE device, the EPG comprising:

- first data on the first content information , the first content information stored at a first CE device, the first CE device being coupled to the second CE device via a peer-to-peer network of respective CE devices.

8. The EPG of claim7 also on second content information, the EPG comprising:

- second data on the second content information, the second content information residing outside the peer-to-peer network.

9. The EPG of claim7, wherein the first data is updated upon a change of content information, which is available to the second device, and that is stored at a first CE device.

10. The EPG of claim 7, wherein the first data comprises data on conditional access.

11. A method of enabling an end-user to select content information, using a first CE device that is part of a peer-to-peer network of CE devices in a data network, the method comprising:

- giving the end-user an incentive to select content information available at a second CE device in the peer-to-peer network in the data network over content information available from a source, other than one of the CE devices, in the data network.

12. A method of enabling an end-user to share content information, using a first CE device that is part of a peer-to-peer network of CE devices in a data network, the method comprising:

- giving the end-user an incentive to make content information available to a second CE device in the peer-to-peer network in the data network.